

Abstract

A mechanism and a method for causing a flow of liquid crystal, which can be utilized industrially, and an object-moving mechanism, which makes use of the flow of liquid crystal, are provided. A mechanism for causing a flow of liquid crystal comprising (i) a channel "L" defined by at least one wall surface "B," (ii) liquid crystal "LC" which is put in the channel "L" and movable along said at least one wall surface "B", and (iii) a means for turning the molecules "m" of the liquid crystal "LC" in a plane intersecting said at least one wall surface "B." The mechanism makes use of the flow of the liquid crystal "LC" which is caused when the molecules "m" of the liquid crystal "LC" are turned. When the means for turning the molecules "m" of the liquid crystal "LC" turns the molecules "m" of the liquid crystal "LC" in a plane intersecting said at least one wall surface "B," the liquid crystal "LC" flows along said at least one wall surface "B." The flow of the liquid crystal "LC" can easily be utilized for making object-moving devices, sensors, actuators, etc.

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